

Availability of land for public recreation (*RECREATION*)

Level of concern

Not Concerned - 8.8% (114)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 15.4% (199)
Somewhat Concerned - 43.0% (555)
Very Concerned - 32.8% (423)
Rating Average - 3.00

Top issue

First - 11.0% (142)
Second - 3.6% (47)
Third - 3.5% (45)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 20

Related "other issues"

"Adamantly against [...] reducing public hunting lands"
"It would be nice to have more OHV lands for use."
"Lack of firearms target ranges on Division of Forestry Properties"
"Preservation of game bird habitat"
"Ruffed grouse habitat restoration"
"The lack of ability for public use of the forest lands! other than walking. Like to see more areas for Motorcycle/atv and horses."
"The quality of hiking trails and commitment to maintaining these hiking trails."
"Would like to see more open riding areas for machines with Forest Approved Exhausts. Ie. Dirt bikes, ATV's"

Conservation and maintenance of soil and water resources (*SOIL & WATER*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 0.5% (7)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 3.3% (43)
Somewhat Concerned - 31.8% (411)
Very Concerned - 64.3% (831)
Rating Average - 3.60

Top issue

First - 15.4% (199)
Second - 11.3% (146)
Third - 6.2% (80)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 29

Related "other issues"

"erosion and sediment impacts on water quality in logged forests"
"Impact of cleared fence rows on water retention of soils and wind erosion."
"Loss of quality soils, plants and timber caused by flooding and erosion"

“Water Quality and Fishery Resources”

Conservation of biodiversity (including plant and wildlife habitat) (*BIODIVERSITY*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 1.2% (15)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 6.0% (77)
Somewhat Concerned - 35.3% (457)
Very Concerned - 57.6% (745)
Rating Average - 3.49

Top issue

First – 11.6% (150)
Second – 10.4% (134)
Third – 6.2% (80)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 48

Related “other issues”

“I am concerned with Indiana DNR slow progress of reintroducing extirpated animals back into Indiana like Fisher, Porcupine, Spotted Skunk, Elk, Black Bear, Wolf and Cougar.”
“Conservations of special areas, specific habitats”
“Lack of early successional forest habitat suitable to migrant songbirds, woodcock, and grouse”
“lack of small game habitat- rabbits grouse quail woodcock songbirds whippoorwill”
“Loss of early successional areas and species that depend on early successional forest.”
“Managing for non-game wildlife i.e. interior forest nesting songbirds”
“Preservation and development of complete ecosystems and Wildlife Habitat is my greatest concern”
“Restoration of predator populations & higher deer/turkey harvests [to help naturally control deer and turkey impact on forests]”
“The need for our historically past plains areas where certain forests were absent”
“Very concerned about the decline of forest interior species”
“way too many turkeys”

Conservation of forests that protect drinking water supplies (*DRINKING*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 1.3% (17)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 5.6% (72)
Somewhat Concerned - 32.6% (419)
Very Concerned - 60.5% (778)
Rating Average - 3.52

Top issue

First – 3.9% (51)
Second – 6.4% (82)
Third – 5.7% (73)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 4

Government forest conservation related policies (including taxation, zoning, etc.) (POLICY)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 2.4% (30)

Somewhat Unconcerned - 10.6% (134)

Somewhat Concerned - 38.9% (494)

Very Concerned - 48.2% (612)

Rating average - 3.33

Response count - 1,270

Top issue

First - 5.8% (75)

Second - 7.2% (93)

Third - 6.3% (81)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 20

Related "other issues"

"Changing of tax assessments on forest land to "development land" and a much higher tax bill"

"Threat of losing taxation benefits from certified forestry and other programs"

"Government subsidy [allowing] foreign companies to [harvest] forests below market value"

"Government should not use our natural resources for Taxes. They should stop letting Farm Land and Forest be turned into Development and give the people Tax incentives for woods and Farm Land."

"high property taxes on long term forest areas"

"Impact of local zoning on forest management"

"Inheritance taxes destroying family farms"

"Insufficient (fed. & state) government support/collaboration for private forest conservation efforts."

"Lack of coordination between state and local governments on forest issues."

"Lack of enforceable requirements for timber harvest best management practices"

"Loss of forest land to right of ways when other routes exist"

"State laws governing privately owned and planted and grown ginseng that are negative to production"

"Timber buyers can be an unscrupulous lot. Standards need to be established to protect consumers. Buyers should be licensed and bonded."

"DNR "rules" for dams re: "crisis conditions" are ridiculous"

"Local democratic govt. attempts to remove property tax incentives"

"Too much government influence on the free market place and private woodlands example permit system in Monroe County"

"Statewide forestry standards"

"State purchase of development rights would be great"

Forests not managed for carbon storage (carbon sequestration aspects not considered) (*CARBON*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 14.5% (182)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 25.5% (321)
Somewhat Concerned - 41.6% (523)
Very Concerned - 18.4% (232)
Rating Average – 2.64
Response count - 1,258

Top issue

First - 0.5% (6)
Second – 1.6% (20)
Third – 1.5% (19)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 6

Related “other issues”

None

Fragmentation and/or conversion of forests to another land use (e.g. development, homes, agriculture) (*FRAGMENTATION*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 2.5% (32)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 6.7% (87)
Somewhat Concerned - 23.9% (308)
Very Concerned - 66.9% (862)
Rating Average - 3.55
Response count - 1,289

Top issue

First – 14.6% (198)
Second – 14.0% (180)
Third – 10.8% (138)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 49

Related “other issues”

“Connectivity of isolated habitats”

“Inappropriate development in woodlands (e.g. breakup into unsustainable parcels; home placements); upcoming jump in land transfers to next generation”

“Regionalized land use planning will encourage transit-ready, high-density development while protecting natural resources, such as ag and timber, from uncontrolled suburban sprawl.”

High cost of forest ownership and low incentives to retain (*INCENTIVES*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 3.8% (49)

Somewhat Unconcerned - 11.4% (147)

Somewhat Concerned - 42.1% (542)

Very Concerned - 42.7% (550)

Rating Average - 3.24

Response count - 1,288

Top issue

First – 3.8% (49)

Second – 6.2% (80)

Third – 7.6% (97)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 18

Related "other issues"

“failure to be compensated for the all the values privately owned forest lands provide to the public”

“[need for] incentives to maintain private forest areas instead of selling to developers, as well as requiring developers to maintain forested areas in new development.”

“Lack of landowner incentives to maintain healthy forests. Current economics lean towards development of forests instead of maintaining them as forest ecosystems.”

“We need more incentives for landowners to keep their property in forest.”

Inadequate public education about forests (*EDUCATION*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 2.6% (34)

Somewhat Unconcerned - 12.3% (159)

Somewhat Concerned - 48.2% (622)

Very Concerned - 36.9% (476)

Rating Average -3.19

Response count - 1,291

Top issue

First – 2.9% (38)

Second – 4.7% (60)

Third – 5.3% (68)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 43

Related "other issues"

“lack of educational "seminars" for the small woodland owner e.g. invasive species”

“Lack of public education concerning sustainable forestry”

“Loud uneducated people are allowed to override decisions made by DoF personnel who are trained and educated in this field.”

“need for public education on forestry through local publications like newspapers.”

Inadequate youth education about forests (*SCHOOLS*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 2.5% (32)

Somewhat Unconcerned - 10.1% (131)

Somewhat Concerned - 45.8% (592)

Very Concerned - 41.6% (538)

Rating average - 3.27

Response count - 1,293

Top issue

First – 1.4% (18)

Second – 2.4% (31)

Third – 3.5% (45)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 3

Related "other issues"

"I believe that there is a lot of public education, but it is WRONG. The message that my kids get at school is that they should never cut a tree."

"Next generations interest for forestry"

Lack of active management on forests (*MANAGEMENT*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 4.5% (58)

Somewhat Unconcerned - 16.6% (213)

Somewhat Concerned - 48.3% (620)

Very Concerned - 30.6% (393)

Rating Average - 3.05

Response count - 1,284

Top issue

First – 2.9% (38)

Second – 4.3% (56)

Third – 4.1% (52)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 14

Related "other issues"

"Logging of national forests"

"Need to clear old growth forests to let young trees begin to grow"

"Our forests are being allowed to become too old. We need a more aggressive management plan that includes provisions for maintaining a forest containing many different stages of succession. This would include substantial clear cutting to provide more early"

"replace diameter limit cutting of timber with individually marked trees offered for sale via sealed bid"

"need for ongoing TSI for maximal benefit to woodland"

Lack of healthy woodlands and trees in urban areas, including city parks, street and yard trees (*URBAN*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 5.3% (68)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 19.2% (246)
Somewhat Concerned - 42.0% (538)
Very Concerned - 33.5% (430)
Rating Average - 3.04
Response count - 1,282

Top issue

First – 1.2% (16)
Second – 2.3% (30)
Third – 3.4% (44)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 19

Related "other issues"

"Lack of a statewide code or ordinance which protects trees in urban and suburban areas."
"Tree care in urban environments as well as suburban, loss of trees in our cities"
"Urban forests/trees as preparation for global warming and the end of cheap oil"

Overpopulation of white-tailed deer (*DEER*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 10.2% (131)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 22.0% (283)
Somewhat Concerned - 36.0% (464)
Very Concerned - 31.8% (410)
Rating Average - 2.90
Response count - 1,288

Top issue

First – 3.6% (47)
Second – 5.1% (66)
Third – 6.3% (81)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 22

Related "other issues"

"Intact legislation to either increase the kill rate for deer or consider some type of birth control research to limit the enormous deer population. Damage on my property alone is in excess of \$3000. in just this last year."
"The damage the deer are doing to my woods and new hardwood tree plantings is overwhelming"

Sustainable regeneration of oak woodlands (*OAK*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 2.1% (27)

Somewhat Unconcerned - 11.6% (149)

Somewhat Concerned - 45.4% (582)

Very Concerned - 40.8% (523)

Rating Average - 3.25

Response count - 1,281

Top issue

First – 2.2% (29)

Second – 3.5% (45)

Third – 5.0% (64)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 18

Related “other issues”

None

Sustaining Indiana's forest product industry (*INDUSTRY*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 6.5% (84)

Somewhat Unconcerned - 16.2% (208)

Somewhat Concerned - 40.6% (522)

Very Concerned - 36.7% (472)

Rating Average - 3.07

Response count - 1,286

Top issue

First – 3.8% (49)

Second – 3.3% (42)

Third – 5.4% (69)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 16

Related “other issues”

“Identifying and developing new markets for forest products”

“poor log markets”

“we need to 'brand' Indiana hardwoods via quality control standards and public leadership in better land use planning and policies.”

“Utilization of lower valued species”

The control of forest fires (forest fire suppression) (*SUPPRESSION*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 12.2% (157)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 29.2% (375)
Somewhat Concerned - 34.2% (440)
Very Concerned - 24.4% (314)
Rating Average - 2.71
Response count - 1,286

Top issue

First – 2.8% (36)
Second – 1.4% (18)
Third – 1.5% (19)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 7

Related “other issues”

“Lack of forest fire suppression manpower & equipment during fire seasons”
“loss of fire fighting personnel and equipment use”

The loss of fire dependent plant communities and habitats (restoration of fire-adapted lands) (*FIRE-ADAPTED*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 5.9% (75)
Somewhat Unconcerned - 26.0% (331)
Somewhat Concerned - 43.8% (558)
Very Concerned - 24.4% (311)
Rating average - 2.87
Response count – 1,275

Top issue

First – 1.0% (13)
Second – 2.2% (29)
Third – 2.0% (25)

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 5

Related “other issues”

None

The spread and control of invasive species (*INVASIVES*)

Level of Concern

Not Concerned - 1.6% (20)

Somewhat Unconcerned - 5.0% (63)

Somewhat Concerned - 25.9% (326)

Very Concerned - 67.5% (851)

Rating average - 3.59

Response count - 1,260

Top issue

First – 9.8% (127)

Second – 9.0% (116)

Third – 13.9% (178)

*Survey respondents interested in partnership:*43

Related "other issues"

“garlic mustard plants, they are taking over the woodland”

“More notification of invasive species, such as Bush Honeysuckle.”

“mustard garlic and the problem that is becoming”

“Private land owner being informed about and willing to control (put forth the effort and spend the money to spray or dig out of the ground) invasive species (Kudzu, Multiflora Roses, Tree of Heaven) on their own land, to facilitate control on adjacent pub”

Other Issues

Forest pests & tree diseases (*HEALTH*)

15 respondents cited issues related to forest pests and tree diseases. 7 of these responses were directly related to the Emerald Ash Bore.

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 2

Related "other issues" responses

"EAB, oak decline"

"control of destructive insect migration"

"Fungi, beetles, & other foreign invaders (killers) of selected trees"

"Very concerned about destructive insect species and loss of woodland biodiversity"

(*OLD GROWTH*)

4 respondents cited issues related to conservation of old growth forest.

Survey respondents interested in partnership: 7

Related "other issues"

"Balance between sustainable harvest for forest products and protection of old growth"

"Harvesting our old growth timber - I've seen it, and I've seen the trucks hauling trees out that should have never been cut. Easily over 60 dbh!"

"I am very concerned about the loss of and lack of old growth forest in Indiana."

Genetically modified trees (GMO)

"Replanting forests with genetically modified tree species is something I don't support"